

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 1, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Recently, to overcome growing global environment issues, hydrogen has received attention as a clean energy source. With this tendency, the development of technologies for producing, storing and applying hydrogen has been accelerated. In a hydrogen storage system using a hydrogen storage material, it is presently considered that a hydrogen storage alloy is the most practical hydrogen storage material. In the best-known LaNi₅-based hydrogen storage alloy, the hydrogen storage ratio is 1.4 % by weight at normal temperature and at a hydrogen pressure of 1 MPa. Even in a vanadium-based hydrogen storage alloy, which recently has attracted attention, the hydrogen storage ratio is 2.4 % by weight. Because of these facts, it is considered that the hydrogen storage capacity has not yet reached a practical level. As another hydrogen storage material, a carbon-based material containing carbon as a base material, such as graphite, ~~activate~~ activated charcoal, or carbon nano-tubes is known. However, graphite shows a hydrogen storage capacity only in rare cases. The hydrogen storage ratio of activate charcoal is less than 1 % by weight and that of carbon nano-tubes is considered to be 3 % by weight or less.

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 4, line 8, with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 4 is a graph showing the calculated hydrogen storage amount (by ~~volume-%~~ g/ml) of a hydrogen storage material in the Example 1 and the Comparative Example;

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 4, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

FIG. 6 is a graph showing the calculated hydrogen storage amount (by ~~volume-%~~ g/ml) of a hydrogen storage material in the Example 2 and the Comparative Example;